LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7064 NOTE PREPARED: Jan 10, 2013

BILL NUMBER: HB 1306 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Age for Mandatory School Attendance.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Hale BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill provides that, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, a student shall enroll in a kindergarten program not later than the fall term of the school year in which the student becomes five years of age.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill would require mandatory half-day kindergarten for students. Currently, kindergarten has to be offered by schools, but parents can choose to enroll in a child half-day, full-day, or not participate in kindergarten. During the 2011 school year, there were 76,765 students attending public school kindergarten. In the 2012 school year, there were 79,343 students attending 1st grade in public school, a difference of 2,578 students. The number of students attending public kindergarten has increased over the last 20 years. In 1989, there were 71,210 students attending kindergarten and 80,882 students attending 1st grade the following year, an increase of 9,672 students. The number of students has increased as the state has implemented Full Day Kindergarten. In 2012 school year, there were 78,149 students enrolled in kindergarten while in the 2013 school year there are 79,110 students so the 2,578 students not attending a kindergarten program has probably decreased since 2011.

The impact on the state would depend on the increase in the public school enrollments and the school formula in effect at that time. The current school formula is repealed on January 1, 2014. The impact on the 2013 school formula from increasing the kindergarten enrollment by 2,578 students would increase the state costs to local schools by about \$14.3 M. Any future impact would also depend on if the amount to be distributed exceeds the maximum state tuition support distribution during the calendar year.

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Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Schools might have some additional costs associated with providing services to estimated 2,578 more students not currently attending a public kindergarten. For the 2013 school year there are 79,110 students enrolled in the full-day kindergarten program so it is estimated that most students are currently in a kindergarten program

Explanation of Local Revenues: See Explanation of State Expenditures

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: Department of Education databases.

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